

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 65th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

Call to Order: Chair Keith Regier, on April 6, 2017 at 9:00 AM, in Room 303 Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Sen. Keith Regier, Chair (R)
Sen. Jennifer Fielder, Vice Chair (R)
Sen. Carlie Boland (D)
Sen. Jen Gross (D)
Sen. Steve Hinebaugh (R)
Sen. Jedediah Hinkle (R)
Sen. Margaret (Margie) MacDonald (D)
Sen. Scott Sales (R)
Sen. Diane Sands (D)
Sen. Nels Swandal (R)
Sen. Chas Vincent (R)

Members Excused: None

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Julianne Burkhardt, Legislative Branch
Charlene Devine, Committee Secretary

Audio Committees: These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing & Date Posted: HB 46, 4/3/2017; HB 133, 4/3/2017

00:00:03 Chair Regier

HEARING ON HB 46

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:01:10 Rep. Kimberly Dudik (D), HD 94, opened the hearing on HB 46, Generally revising funding for civil legal aid.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:06:20 Beth Baker, Montana Supreme Court (MSC)

[EXHIBIT\(jus72a01\)](#)

00:15:28 Jon Bennion, Montana Department of Justice (DOJ)

00:16:53 Mary Reeves, self

00:21:30 Bridger Mahlum, Montana Chamber of Commerce

00:23:04 David Carter, self

00:24:35 Ed Bartlett, Montana State Bar, Montana Judges Association

00:25:27 Brian Thompson, Montana Collectors Association

00:26:05 Jane Amdahl, AARP Montana

[EXHIBIT\(jus72a02\)](#)

00:28:23 Aimee Grmoljez, self

00:30:32 Al Smith, Montana Trial Lawyers Association

00:31:07 John Sinrud, Montana Landlords Association

00:32:52 Abigail St. Lawrence, Montana Association of Christians

[EXHIBIT\(jus72a03\)](#)

00:34:07 Kelsen Young, Montana Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:35:07 Chair Regier

00:35:29 Rep. Dudik

00:35:40 Chair Regier

00:41:22 Ms. Baker, MSC

00:42:32 President Sales

00:46:31 Rep. Dudik

00:47:18 Sen. Fielder

00:47:45 Rep. Dudik

00:48:53 Ms. Baker

00:51:11 Sen. Fielder

00:55:49 Ms. Baker

00:56:00 Alison Paul, executive director, Montana Legal Services Association

00:57:29 Sen. Fielder

00:57:39 Ms. Baker
00:58:25 Chair Regier
00:59:50 Ms. Baker

Closing by Sponsor:

01:00:16 Rep. Dudik
01:02:24 Chair Regier

HEARING ON HB 133

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

01:04:00 Rep. Nate McConnell (D), HD 89, opened the hearing on HB 133, Generally revise sentencing laws.

Proponents' Testimony:

01:09:26 Sen. Cynthia Wolken, SD 48
01:13:31 Adrienne Cotton, Montana Department of Corrections
01:16:23 Mary Ann Wellbank, self
01:26:50 Brad Griffin, Montana Retail Association
01:32:29 S.K. Rossi, American Civil Liberties Union
01:32:55 Patrica Spencer, Montana Common Sense Coalition (MCSC)

EXHIBIT(jus72a04)

01:34:05 William Hooks, Office of Public Defender
01:34:52 Paul Smietanka, self
01:35:42 Steve Turkiewicz, Montana Bankers Association
01:36:27 Aimee Grmoljez, Association of Chemical Dependency Treatment Providers

Opponents' Testimony:

01:37:42 Greg Moore, Montana Magistrates Association

EXHIBIT(jus72a05)

01:50:47 Ron Yates, self
01:56:37 Steven Bolstad, Montana Magistrates Association (MMA)

EXHIBIT(jus72a06)

02:05:57 Scott Twito, Yellowstone County attorney

EXHIBIT(jus72a07)

02:15:31 Louis Smith, Powell County attorney

EXHIBIT(jus72a08)

02:25:51 Cassidy Blomgren, deputy prosecutor, Great Falls City Attorney's Office

EXHIBIT(jus72a09)

02:31:58 Brent Brooks, attorney, City of Billings
02:35:12 Ryan Oster, Montana Association of Chiefs of Police
02:42:26 Josh Racki, deputy county attorney, Cascade County
02:46:14 Jessie Connolly, Montana Magistrates Association
02:49:15 Jordan Knudsen, City of Hardin
02:53:41 David Carter, self
02:55:21 Kent Sipe, Fergus County
02:58:23 Perry Miller, Montana Magistrates Association
03:05:31 Marty Lambert, attorney, Gallatin County
03:08:31 Kelly Mantooth, self
03:10:38 Leo Gallagher, Lewis and Clark County attorney
03:12:36 Bill Fulbright, attorney, Ravalli County

Informational Testimony:

03:16:48 Kris Hanson, former state senator, Havre; member of Sentencing Commission
03:17:16 Robin Turner, Montana Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence
(MCADSV)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

03:17:37 Sen. Swandal
03:18:05 Rep. McConnell
03:20:51 Sen. Sands
03:21:16 Ms. Turner, MCADSV
03:22:15 Sen. Hinkle
03:27:21 Rep. McConnell
03:27:55 Sen. MacDonald
03:28:48 Ms. Spencer, MCSC
03:30:34 Sen. MacDonald
03:31:07 Rep. McConnell
03:31:26 Sen. Boland
03:31:59 Mr. Bolstad, MMA

Closing by Sponsor:

03:34:14 Rep. McConnell
03:36:02 Chair Regier

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 12:40 PM

Charlene Devine, Secretary

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Additional Documents

Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([jus72aad.pdf](#))